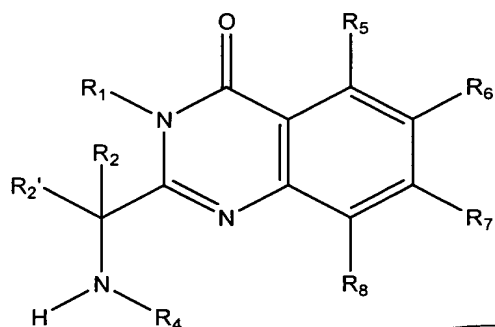


and



Please amend claims 53 and 56 as follows:

53. (Amended) A compound according to claim 31[52] wherein:

R₁ is chosen from hydrogen, lower alkyl, substituted lower alkyl, benzyl, substituted benzyl, phenyl, naphthyl and substituted phenyl;

R₂ is chosen from hydrogen, lower alkyl and substituted lower alkyl and R₂' is hydrogen;

R₃' is chosen from C₁-C₁₃ alkyl; substituted lower alkyl; phenyl; naphthyl; phenyl substituted with halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, nitro, methylenedioxy, or trifluoromethyl; biphenyl, benzyl and heterocyclyl; and

R₄ is chosen from lower alkyl, substituted lower alkyl, cyclohexyl; phenyl substituted with hydroxy, lower alkoxy or lower alkyl; benzyl; substituted benzyl, heterocyclyl, heteroarylmethyl; heteroarylethyl; heteroarylpropyl and R₁₆-alkylene, wherein R₁₆ is di(lower alkyl)amino, (lower alkyl)amino, amino, lower alkoxy, or N-heterocyclyl.

56. (Amended) A compound according to any of claims [32 to 45, 47, 48, 50, 51 and] 53 to 55 wherein the stereogenic center to which R₂ and R₂' are attached is of the R configuration.